THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) There is no overall loss of earnings in transportation of goods. However, the railways are incurring losses in transportation of certain essential commodities carried below cost of operation to meet social obligations.

(b) The details of quantum of traffic and the earnings therefrom for the last three years are given below:

Year	Tonne (million)	Earning (Rs. in Crores)
1992-93 . . .	350.00	10903.04
1993-94 . . .	358.73	12557.36
1994-95 (Prov.) .	373.00	13700.00

Handing over of Railway Vending stalls to private contractors

3749. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to hand over vending stalls and hotels on railway stations to private contractors has been implemented; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of such contracts given during the last one years?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) As per extent policy all new catering/vending units are being awarded to reputed and professional caterers in the private sector.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Introduction of Rail Bus Services

3750. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Railways have planned to introduce rail bus services in 9 additional sectors in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the sectors where rail buses are to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Depending upon their availability, it is proposed to introduce Rail Bus service on the following sectors;

(i) Gwalior-Panihar

(ii) Pandabeswar-Palasthali

(iii) Bikaner-Kolayat

(iv) Mankapur-Katra

(v) Bangarapet-Marikuppam

(vi) Hospet-Kotturu

(vii) Hospet-Swamihalli

(viii) Bobbili-Salur

(ix) Nadiad-Kapadvanj

Raising money from public for executing projects

3751. SHRI GUNLAPPA KORWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have raised money from public for executing some of the major railway projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?